GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5517
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2003
UTILIZATION OF FUNDS
A.P. JITHENDER REDDY

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that huge amount of funds remained unutilized by his Ministry during each of last three financial years;

(b) if so, the details alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to make full utilization of the funds available?

Answer

MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA)

(a) to (c): In the Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals,an amount of Rs.79.31 crore was surrendered from the budget for the year 2000-01. This amount included Rs.60.66 crore as Non-Plan and Rs. 18.63 crore as Plan. Themajor portion of Non-Plan funds was surrendered due to reduced requirement on account of Exchange Rate Variation and also because the quantum of compensation awarded to Bhopal Gas Victims was less than anticipated. The surrender was also due to non-filling of certain posts under economy measures as well as due to 10 % cut imposed by the Ministry of Finance. The surrender in the Plan Budget was mainly due to the 10% contribution of the Plan Budgetsupport to the Non-lapsable Pool of funds for North-East Region and Sikkim.The Department had reviewed the position to ensure that the funds are utilized to the maximum possible. Consequently, during the years 2001-02 and 2002-03, the surrender of funds was Rs. 4.49 crore (approx.) (Rs. 3.20 crore Plan and Rs.1.29 crore Non-Plan) and Rs. 8.93 crore (approx.) (Rs. 6.93 crore Plan and Rs. 2.00 Crore Non-Plan) respectively.

In the Department of Fertilizers, during the last three years,only in the financial year 2001-02 were funds unutilised due to lower import of urea than estimated. Provision was made for import of 12 lakh MTs of urea whereas the actual import was of 2.2 lakh MTs only. The CIF price had also shown a declingtrend in 2001-2002. During 2001-02, the country witnessed drought like situation in many States which resulted in reduced consumption of fertilizers in the country. This further resulted in non-utilization of funds.